

Operation **Come Home**



years of preventing
homeless youth
from becoming
homeless adults

A WORD FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Operation Come Home (OCH) continued to grow in programming, innovation and support services to at risk and homeless youth in 2020. Despite the Covid 19 pandemic, OCH continued to provide in person and virtual services to young people in need of resources and supports. OCH continued to assist youth in finding jobs, finishing high school, enrolling in College and University and finding a safe place to live.



ELSPETH MCKAY

The Board of Directors, staff, youth and stakeholders assisted in the completion of a new strategic plan (2021-2023). OCH's winning aspirational statement is as follows: Operation Come Home offers dignity, a better path, and a brighter future to every youth we encounter. By 2023, OCH will prevent 300 unique at-risk youth from becoming homeless adults by helping them get jobs, complete their high school education, and/or find safe, affordable housing. The strategic plan highlights some priorities such as: continuing to be a leader in social enterprise innovation; focusing on partnerships; ensuring that OCH has data to illustrate our impact and to measure our success and finally to continue to be resilient. I am proud to report that OCH has already successfully executed some of the priorities outlined in Year 1 of the action plan.

In 2020, Operation Come Home continued to provide insights to the central planning table for the Employment Hub, Collaborative Social Enterprise Development (CSED), Built for Zero, Housing First, the Rotary Club of Ottawa, the Youth Justice Services Network and OCH continued to provide input on the Community Funding Framework that was legislated for review by the Community and Protective Services Committee of the City of Ottawa.

OCH continues to be the leading youth serving "hub" in the development of community economic development (CED) opportunities for vulnerable youth. OCH strives to break the cycle of poverty by encouraging youth to work in BottleWorks and FoodWorks, enroll in one of our supported employment programs and/or finish high school in the John Bosco Achievement Centre. In 2020, OCH continued our successful partnership with Youturn and the Ottawa Catholic School Board for students that are hoping to finish high school. In 2020, OCH supported 100 youth in finding safe, affordable and emergency housing. OCH provided employment supports to 85 youth; served 205 young people in our resource Centre; and enrolled 48 youth in our high school. Operation Come Home worked with 27 young people in our addictions program in addition OCH employed 17 youth in our social enterprises, FoodWorks and BottleWorks. Prior to the pandemic Operation Come Home hosted our annual 24 hours of homelessness.

ABOUT US

Our Mission

Operation Come Home strives to provide a comprehensive menu of innovative programs and services designed to engage youth in productive activities that will provide them with a foundation to move on with their life goals.

The employment support staff provide at risk youth with supports geared to employment preparation, job search, placement and job retention. OCH works closely with multiple employers in the City of Ottawa.

The John Bosco Achievement Centre staff provide at-risk and homeless youth with an opportunity to graduate from high school, earn a General Educational Development diploma (GED) and earn co-op credits.

Housing support staff provide youth with assistance to find, move-in and retain housing.

The General Housing Support staff assist youth to find emergency shelter.

The Social Enterprises: BottleWorks and FoodWorks provide at risk youth an opportunity to gain work experience, skills, business acumen and on-the-job training.

Support services staff offer youth a menu such as counseling; mental health; addictions; mentoring and assessments. In addition, OCH provides youth with basic needs, emergency services, crisis intervention and an opportunity to be reunited home.

2020 Snapshot



100 youth engaged in housing programs



390+ grocery/supply hampers delivered



27 youth received substance use support



48 youth registered in JBAC



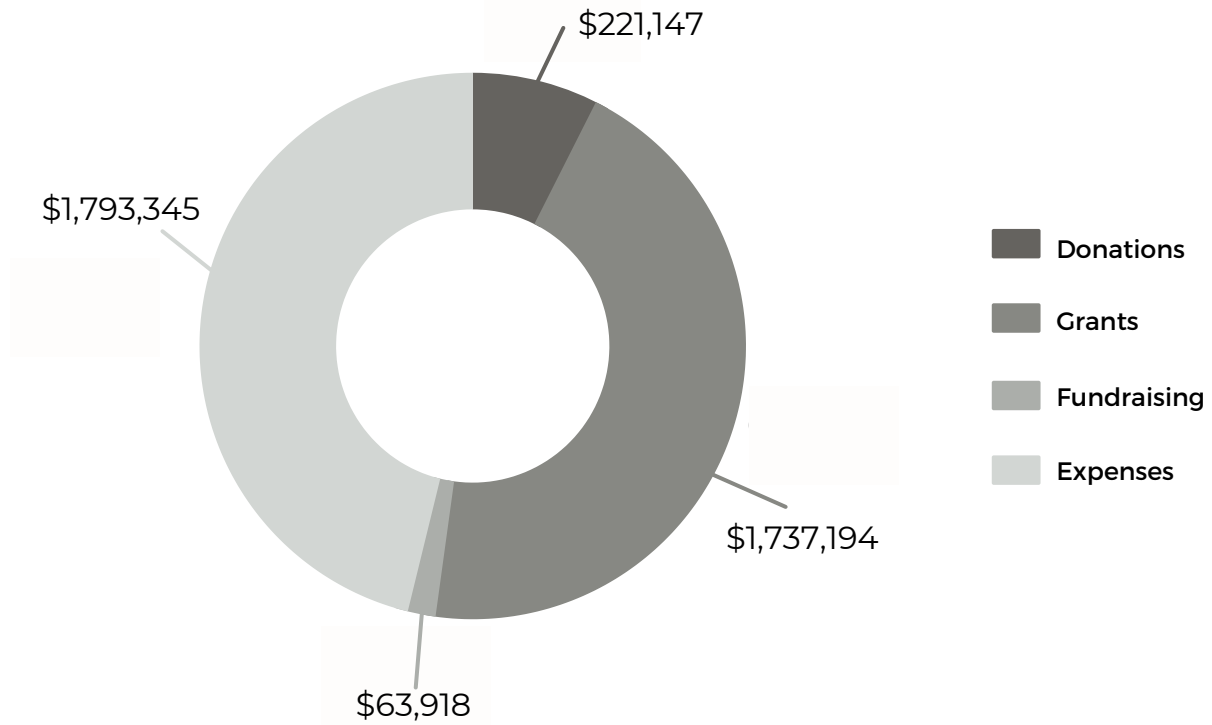
85 youth employed



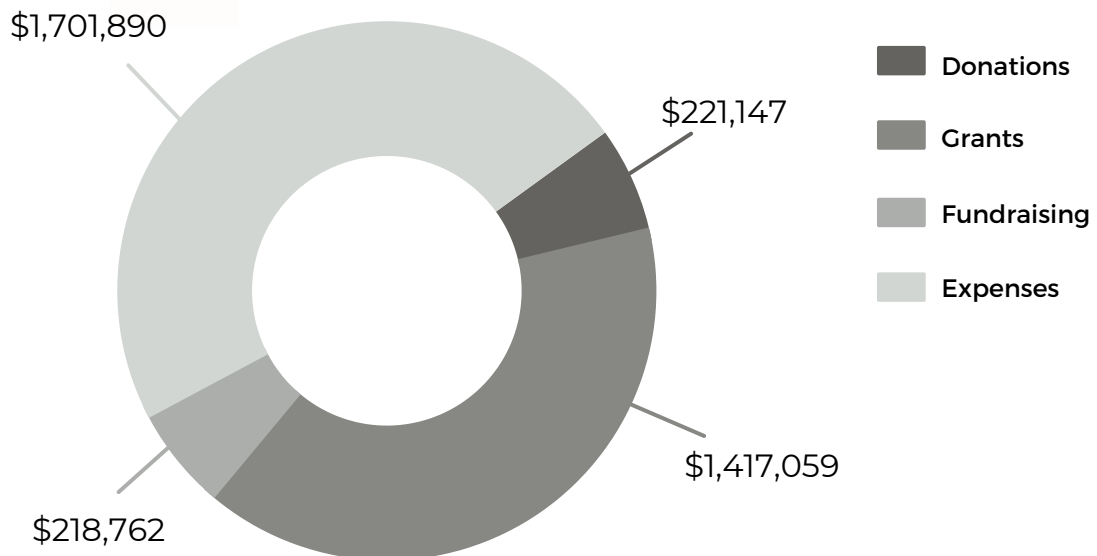
4468 meals served

FUNDING PROFILE

2020- Revenue/Expenses- Operation Come Home



2019 Revenue/Expenses- Operation Come Home



INVOLVED WITH OCH

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Partners

Ottawa Catholic School Board
Community Veterinary
Outreach
Rotary Club of Ottawa
Ottawa Public Health
Centretown Community
Health Centre

Youturn
The Royal Ottawa Mental Health
Centre
Ottawa School of Art
Ottawa Network for Education
Lester B Pearson
Excellence in Literacy Foundation

Bank Street Business
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Via Rail Canada
Greyhound Ottawa
Orleans Express
Maritime Bus
Red Arrow Bus

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